

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of::	)	Group Art Unit: 1635
	)	
LUZ MONTESCLAROS et al.	)	Examiner: RICHARD SCHNIZER, Ph.D.
	)	
Serial No.: 10/618,493	)	Confirmation Number: 5407
	)	
Filed: July 11, 2003	)	
	)	
For: <b>METHODS AND KITS FOR</b>	)	
<b>OBTAINING NUCLEIC ACID</b>	)	
<b>FROM BIOLOGICAL</b>	)	
<b>SAMPLES</b>	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants now respond to the Final Office Action mailed May 31, 2006, (the "Office Action"). The period to respond has been extended three months by the Petition for Three Month Extension of Time filed herewith. Applicants are also filing herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), along with the required fee. Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-2213 (5063).

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims section that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Interview Summary** for the telephonic interview conducted on July 26, 2006 begins on page 12 of this paper.

**Response** is reflected in the Remarks section that begins on page 12 of this paper.